



St Aidan's

Church of England Primary Academy
A member of **CDARI**



'I came that they may have life and live it to the full' John 10.10



Friday 17th April 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back for our final term – it's going to be a busy one, but lots of fun too!

Dan't forget to keep an eye on the diary dates.

My door is always open if you ever want to chat about anything at all, please do get in touch as we're here to help in any way we can.

Looking forward to a great last term together to wrap up my second year as Headteacher.

Mrs Harrison



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Dates for the Diary:-

Wednesday 15th April:- school Photos

Tuesday 21st April:- 'Yesterday' 100 years ago event in church- just children

Wednesday 22nd April:- Earth day- activities during school

Monday 27th April:- All clubs restart

Friday 1st May:- INSET day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 4th May:- Bank holiday (school closed)

W/C 11th May:- KS2 SATs week

Friday 15th May:- Year 6 at the Park

Wednesday 20th May:- EYFS Trip to the farm

Thursday 21st May:- Year 6 trip to the museum

Friday 22nd May:- School closes 3:20pm for Half term

Monday 8th June:- school Re-opens



Talk and tales

Talk and tales year 1 and 2, this is an opportunity for parents / carers of children in year 1 and 2 to come into their child's classroom and enjoy the class story with them. A time to see oracy in action and engage with your child's reading. The next session will take place on Tuesday 21st April and Tuesday 12th May at 2:50pm.



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Staffing update:-

I am writing to share a brief update regarding our staffing for the upcoming Summer term. **Mrs Liddiard** will be known as **Miss Aspin**. We have already shared this news with the children in her school, and they are looking forward to continuing their hard work and learning with her under her new name. We would appreciate your support in using "Miss Aspin" when speaking with your children or addressing correspondence.

Aside from the change in name, all other classroom routines remain the same.





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Dear Parents,

To ensure our students get the most out of their school day, we would like to remind everyone about the importance of full attendance. We've recently seen an increase in students missing lesson time due to mid-day appointments.

We understand that scheduling can be difficult, but we ask that you try to book appointments outside of school hours or during the holidays where possible. Every minute of teaching time is precious, and arriving late or leaving early can be disruptive for both the student and the rest of the class.

A quick reminder of our procedures:

- Please provide the office with at least **24 hours' notice** for any scheduled appointments.
- We kindly request **proof of the appointment** (a text, letter, or slip) for our records.

Thank you for helping us keep our classrooms focused on learning!



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FOOTBALL FOR ALL CAPABILITIES

Darwen girls & Ladies would like to introduce our new disability teams.

Coaches are fully trained to make football inclusive to all.

INTERESTED?

CONTACT US:

07362239382



FACEBOOK
DARWENGIRLS#LADIES



TIKTOK
DARWENGIRLS



7-11 YEARS



12-16 YEARS

- ✓ **FUN, SAFE DRILLS**
- ✓ **SMALLER GROUPS**
- ✓ **ALL CAPABILITIES**
- ✓ **CONFIDENCE BUILDING**
- ✓ **DEVELOP SKILLS**



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DARWEN GIRLS SOCCER SCHOOL



MINI LIONESSES

THURSDAYS 6PM – 7PM

BOOK YOUR PLACE – THEY ARE GOING QUICK



FOR RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & 2

PLEASE CONTACT NIKKI ON

+44 7362 233982

OR EMAIL DARWENGIRLS@HOTMAIL.COM



VENUE: DACA

For more information contact Nikki:
www.darwengirls.co.uk



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LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN AND FREE FOR THE FAMILY TO DO AT THE WEEKENDS? LOOK NO FURTHER

10 AM-12 NOON EVERY SATURDAY

ParkPlay

Mill Hill

What is ParkPlay?
Free outdoor activities and games every Saturday morning.
Families can play, connect and move together in this fun inclusive space.
All generations welcome.

FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS OF FRIENDS - EVERYONE WELCOME.

MILL HILL GARDENS, NEW CHAPEL STREET, OPP COMMUNITY CENTRE, BB2 4DT

REGISTER HERE

The BILLY Project **BLACKBURN DISTRICT COUNCIL** **re:fresh your health our wellbeing** **SPORT ENGLAND** **BLACKBURN YOUTHZONE**

Building happier, healthier communities through the life-changing power of play



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FOUNDATION PROGRAMME
U4s - U6s
SATURDAY(S)
ACCINGTON
BWD
CHORLEY

3v3s LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
U5s - U7s
MONDAY(S)
BWD

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD INVITE ONLY
U5s - U8s
SATURDAY(S)
TUESDAY(S)
BWD

LIONS BIRTHDAY PARTY

HOLIDAY CLUBS
BURNLEY
CHORLEY
OSWALDTWISTLE

1-2-1 PRIVATE SESSION
MAY-SEPT

0800 368 8045 | INFO@LITTLELIONS.CO.UK
WWW.LITTLELIONS.CO.UK



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Pantomime

Our yearly trip to Blackburn Empire Theatre to watch the Aladdin pantomime is on Monday 7th December. The cost of this trip is **£7.00** per pupil.

The payment has been added to Schoolmoney now to give you the opportunity to spread the cost into affordable weekly/monthly payments or alternatively, if you wish, you can pay the amount in full.



House Statistics

ALWAYS following the school rights this week.



HODDER	CALDER	BLAKEWATER	RIBBLE
96%	96%	98%	100%



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Attendance Matters

Attendance is **NOT** optional

There is an expectation that children are in school **EVERY** day.



Overall School Attendance Target is **96%**

Actual Whole School Attendance is **95.48%**



Well done to **Year 6!** who had the best attendance in the school last week!



Weekly Attendance

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.86%	95.29%	92.73%	94.48%	96.43%	95.2%	97.78%

Weekly Lates

REC	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
6	0	0	3	1	0	0



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Congratulations

Well done to the following children for being chosen to receive an award this week:



	Star's of the week 16.04.26	Value's In Practice award winners (V.I.P's) 16.04.26
Reception (Miss Abbott)	Mercedes&Hayyatullah	Nellie-Bleu
Year 1 (Miss Kay)	Rowan&Iremide	Aila-Mae
Year 2 (Miss Brindle)	Jaymee-Leigh&Loulou	Lula
Year 3	Mia&Mmasinachi	Tommy
Year 4 (Miss Bateson)	Lena&Chimamanda	Lily-May
Year 5 (Mrs Moss)	Jay&Layla E	Achillea
Year 6 (Miss Cornall)	Anas&Reema	Eric

Kind Regards,

K. Harrison

Headteacher

Norfolk Street, Mill Hill, Blackburn BB2 4EW
Tel: 01254 53148

www.staidansblackburn.co.uk



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National
Year of
Reading
2026



Green
Library
Hubs



CILIP
The library
and information
association

Junior Book Bingo



Name:

School:

Library Card No:

Read a book about wild animals

- Title
- Author
- What sticks out in my mind

Read a book about plants

- Title
- Author
- What sticks out in my mind

Listen to any eAudiobook, e.g. Borrowbox

- Title
- Author
- What sticks out in my mind

Read a poem with a nature theme

- Title
- Author
- What sticks out in my mind

See over for instructions...

How to play

- Use your library card to borrow and read four books from the library
- For each book, write the title, author and one thing that sticks out in your mind
- Bring your completed form back to your nearest Blackburn with Darwen Library:
 - Blackburn Central Library, Town Hall St, Blackburn BB2 1AG
 - Darwen Library, Knott St, Darwen, BB3 3BU
 - Cherry Tree Library, Cherry Tree Lane, Blackburn BB2 5NX
 - Mill Hill Library, New Chapel St, Mill Hill, Blackburn BB2 4DT
 - Roman Rd Library, Fishmoor Drive, Blackburn, BB2 3UY
- We'll give you a certificate, and put you in a draw to win a prize!
- Draws will take place regularly until **30th June 2026**



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Newsletter

Mental Health Support Team

April 2026



MHST? Who are we?

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) provides an accessible service for students from primary age to year 13 who may be experiencing a range of mild to moderate difficulties with their mental health.

The teams are based within education settings and cover Year 1 to Year 11 in Blackburn with Darwen and Burnley, Burnley College, Year 1 to Year 6 in Pendle and Year 7-13 in Hyndburn, Rossendale and Ribbles Valley (including Nelson and Colne and Accrington College).

If you have noticed your child is feeling frequently sad, worried or anxious and feel they may need support from our team, please speak to a member of staff at your child's school, who can support a referral to the service. You can also speak to your GP.

Team News

Hello everyone
We hope you all had a relaxing Easter Break and enjoyed some of the sunshine we had.

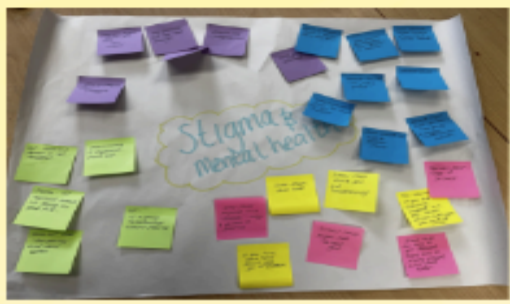
Staff from the team have also had some time off over the bank holiday weekend. We have been busy putting new resources together, creating workshops and of course still continuing to see some young people at Children's Centres and online. This issue of the MHST Newsletter contains information and signposting for Mental Health Awareness Week coming up in May and also some tips around supporting your child with Exam Stress.

Young Peoples Column

During the easter holidays we met as a group and spent time reflecting on the topic of Mental Health and Stigma, we had an interesting discussion and have shared our thoughts with the Communications team at LSCFT who are in the process of developing a campaign looking at this topic.

We also spent time looking at a clip of the MHST video which is due for release soon we hope. This video will show young people who get referred to the team what they can expect on their first appointment.

Finally we spent time working with staff on designing a training package, we are hoping to work on this more during our next meeting in May. We are always looking for new members so feel free to join us next month.



Newsletter - We work as a group to ensure this newsletter and we always looking for new suggestions and comments if you have any to share, please email us at info@mentalhealth Blackburn.co.uk



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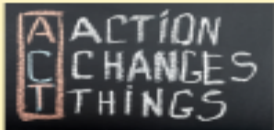
Mental Health Awareness Week

11-17th May 2026

NHS
Lancashire & South Cumbria
NHS Foundation Trust

Mental Health Awareness Week this year will take place from Monday 11 – Sunday 17 May 2026. The theme, as set by the Mental Health Foundation, is to: **Take Action.**

Mental Health Awareness Week 2026 invites us all to Take Action to protect and improve our mental wellbeing, as well as the wellbeing of others. This year's theme highlights that meaningful change often starts with small, everyday actions — from starting an open and honest conversation, to making time for rest, connection, and self-care, or offering support to someone who may be struggling. Taking action can also mean recognising when we need help and feeling able to seek it without fear or judgement. Throughout the week, we'll be sharing ideas, resources, and activities designed to encourage positive steps and collective responsibility. By taking action together, we can help break down stigma, build resilience, and create a culture where mental health is valued, supported, and prioritised all year round



NHS
Lancashire & South Cumbria
NHS Foundation Trust

WAYS TO TAKE ACTION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

- Talk to a friend or someone you trust about anything that's on your mind.
- Reflect on your feelings, and take positive steps to look after yourself.
- Create healthy habits, like getting more sleep or moving your body.
- Set boundaries with social media and activities that are stressful or overwhelming.
- Learn about mental health to understand yourself and others better.
- Be kind—even small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 2026



ACTION
FOR YOURSELF.
FOR SOMEONE ELSE
FOR ALL OF US.

CLICK HERE





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Exam Stress

NHS
Lancashire &
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How to help your child manage exam stress: Tips for parents





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Signposting and Information



Click on the images or scan the QR codes



Navigating exam season - free resources



Exam stress



Careers advice for young people - New Directions

Follow us for regular updates and helpful tips:

[lscft_cypmheast](#)

[Cypmh East Mhst](#)



SCAN ME